

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 20086 301558Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-03 FBOE-00 A-01 CA-01 /016 W
-----020946 311107Z /15

R 301536Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3267

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ASIG AFSP ABLD
SUBJECT: STATUS OF PORT SAID CONSULATE

1. JUNE 1978 FOREIGN SERVICE INSPECTION REPORT, OF WHICH WE HAVE RECEIVED AN ADVANCE COPY, RECOMMENDS THAT THE PORT SAID CONSULATE BE CLOSED AND A CONSULAR AGENCY BE ESTABLISHED IN ITS PLACE (INSPECTION RECOMMENDATIONS 8.2-1 THRU 5). THE AMBASSADOR IS IN AGREEMENT WITH THIS RECOMMENDATION AND WITH THE REASONS THEREFOR. BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR WASHINGTON HE ASKED THAT EMBASSY SEEK DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS AND, IF IT AGREES, AUTHORIZE EMBASSY TO BEGIN PREPARATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE INSPECTORS' RECOMMENDATIONS. THE POSSIBLE CHANGE IN PORT SAID FROM A CONSULATE TO A CONSULAR AGENCY HAS NOT YET BEEN DISCUSSED WITH ANY EGYPTIANS AND THE AMBASSADOR WOULD INTEND TO DO SO AT HIGH LEVEL, IF SO AUTHORIZED, AFTER HIS RETURN FROM WASHINGTON. IF GOE VIEWS ARE SHARPLY NEGATIVE (WHICH WE DO NOT EXPECT), WE WOULD WANT TO CAREFULLY RECONSIDER THIS QUESTION. WE WOULD ALSO BEGIN TO INTERVIEW PROSPECTIVE CONSULAR AGENTS, AND WE ALREADY HAVE A LIST OF POSSIBLE CANDIDATES.

2. INSPECTORS ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT IF THE DEPARTMENT APPROVES THE CLOSURE OF THE PORT SAID CONSULATE, A/FBO SHOULD DISPOSE OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT-OWNED PROPERTY AS
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ADVANTAGEOUSLY AS POSSIBLE (RECOMMENDATION 8.2-6). OUR PRESENT THINKING WOULD BE TO COMPLETE THE REHABILITATION CURRENTLY UNDERWAY OF THE OUTSIDE OF THE BUILDING, AND THEN DECIDE WHETHER TO GO ON WITH THE RENOVATION OF THE INTERIOR OR TO SELL THE PROPERTY AS IS, DEPENDING ON WHAT WOULD BE MOST FINANCIALLY ADVANTAGEOUS AND OUR ASSESSMENT OF WHETHER THE CONSULATE MIGHT AT SOME FUTURE DATE BE

REOPENED.

4. PLEASE PROVIDE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS. MATTHEWS

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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SAS ID: 1697964
Secure: OPEN
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Subject: STATUS OF PORT SAID CONSULATE
TAGS: ASIG, AFSP, ABLD
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vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7af16f61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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